

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

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FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7628

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

S E C R E T JIDDA 3583

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, US

SUBJECT: VIEWS OF SAUDI PRINCE FAHD ON NEW U.S.-SAUDI  
RELATIONSHIP

REF: STATE 129504

SUMMARY: PRINCE FAHD TOLD AMBASSADOR JUNE 20 IN TAIF THAT  
NEW DIRECTION IN U.S.-ARAB RELATIONS, SYMBOLIZED BY FIRST  
PRESIDENTIAL VISIT TO AREA, SHOULD PROVE BENEFICIAL TO BOTH  
SIDES ECONOMICALLY AND COMMERCIALY, AS WELL AS POLITICALLY.  
SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SUCCESSFUL PEACE EFFORTS SHOULD BE  
REGARDED AS IN BEST INTEREST OF ALL CONCERNED, INCLUDING  
JEWISH PEOPLE AND ISRAEL ITSELF, FAHD SAID. FAHD AGREED TO  
SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS OF U.S.-SAUDI WORKING GROUPS AND PROMISED  
APPOINT COORDINATOR FOR SAUDI SIDE. END SUMMARY.

1. AMBASSADOR AND COUNSELOR SABBAGH SAW PRINCE FAHD,  
SAUDI MINISTER OF INTERIOR, JUNE 20 IN TAIF. FAHD, WHO WAS  
IN EXCELLENT SPIRITS, SPOKE AT LENGTH ON THE FOLLOWING:

2. PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT:

A. EVERYONE IN SAUDI ARABIA WAS VERY PLEASED WITH RESULT OF  
VISIT NOT ONLY TO SAUDI ARABIA BUT ALSO TO EGYPT,

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SYRIA AND JORDAN. PRINCE FAHD HIMSELF WAS ELATED AND

CONFIDENT.

B. AMERICAN PEOPLE SHOULD BE EQUALLY PLEASED BECAUSE OF NEW CHAPTER SUCH VISIT HAS OPENED BETWEEN U.S. AND ARAB WORLD.

C. IN THE ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL FIELDS ALONE THIS NEW ARAB-AMERICAN RELATIONSHIP IS BOUND TO PAY THE U.S. GREAT DIVIDENDS AS THE ARAB WORLD EXPANDS AND INTENSIFIES NOT ONLY ITS INDUSTRIALIZATION BUT ALSO ITS NEEDS FOR COMMODITIES, ESPECIALLY FROM THE U.S.

D. EVEN JEWS SHOULD BE APPRECIATIVE BECAUSE HISTORY WILL SHOW THAT DR. KISSINGER'S INTENSIVE PEACE EFFORTS "OF COURSE, UNDER DIRECTION OF PRESIDENT NIXON," HAVE BEEN IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE AND OF ISRAEL ITSELF.

E. NOW THAT PHASE ONE HAS BEEN ACHIEVED THE IMPORTANT THING IS FOR BOTH THE ARABS AND THE U.S. NOT TO SIT ON THEIR LAURELS, BUT TO FOLLOW UP.

3. JOINT U.S.-SAUDI WORKING GROUPS:

AMBASSADOR GAVE PRINCE FAHD SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS OF U.S.-SAUDI WORKING GROUPS (REFTEL). FAHD'S REACTION WAS QUICK APPROVAL COUPLED WITH "IF ANY CHANGES BECAME NECESSARY, IT WOULD BE ONLY A QUESTION OF A DAY HERE OR A DAY THERE." FAHD PROMISED TO DESIGNATE "ONE OF THE MIINISTERS WHO CAME WITH US TO WASHINGTON" AS COORDINATOR WHO WOULD KEEP EYE ON ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS OF THE GROUPS.

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